

they suppose. At present I am utterly worthless. I hope you understand how deeply I appreciate your taking Archie along. My great desire is that he shall get a devil fish. He is a pretty good boy and of course crippling makes it hard for him to enjoy the kind of sports he loves and which you and I at his age enjoyed and I very deeply appreciate your giving him the chance as you have done."

On the same date, January 1, 1919, his profound distrust of President Wilson found expression in this outspoken letter to Mr. Ogden Reid, editor of the New York *Tribune*, one of the last letters he ever wrote:

"This is a grumble from a faithful *Tribune* reader, over an editorial in Sunday's *Tribune*. For Heaven's sake never allude to Wilson as an idealist or militaire or altruist. He is a doctrinaire when he can be so with safety to his personal ambition, and he is always utterly and coldly selfish. He hasn't a touch of idealism in him. His advocacy of the League of Nations no more represents idealism on his part than his advocacy of peace without victory, or his statement that we had no concern with the origin or cause of the European war, or with his profoundly unethical refusal for two and a half years to express a particle of sympathy for poor Belgium. His opponents are cheered when we tell about him being a misguided idealist. He is not. He is a silly doctrinaire at times and an utterly selfish and cold-blooded politician always.'"

After Roosevelt's death various zealous

advocates of  
President Wilson's plan for a League of  
Nations asserted  
that Roosevelt had committed himself in its  
favor. Nothing  
could be more diametrically opposed to the  
truth, for re-  
peatedly he had committed himself against  
it. Speaking  
at the City Hall, New York, on September 6,  
1918, at exer-  
cises on the anniversary of the birth of  
Lafayette and of the  
Battle of the Marne, he said :

"It is sometimes announced that part of the  
peace agree-  
ment must be a League of Nations which will  
avert all war